



## What's New

For a quick visual location reference, see the map at <http://kentuckytourism.com/media/map/>. Regional headings are the same color as the map regions.

### Eastern

**The Hatfield McCoy River Rats** – From kayaking, canoeing, tubing and paddle boats to river guided and unguided tours; this new facility will provide adventure for anyone who enjoys being outdoors. Depart for your water experience on the river at the headquarters at the Bob Amos Park in Pikeville. 606-427-1056 - <http://www.hatfieldmccoyriverrats.com/>

**Portal 31 in Lynch** - Coal fueled the nation for many years and in Eastern Kentucky, coal was king. Visitors to the area can now experience riding a rail car into the mines and discover what a day in the life of a fictional immigrant coal miner was like. Many miners who lived and worked in mining towns came from the British Isles and Italy and their families added to mountain culture. Portal 31 saw 120 million tons of coal pass through its entrance from 1917 to 1963. Now the community has launched an attraction that rounds out an Eastern Kentucky visit. 606-848-1530 - [www.portal31.org](http://www.portal31.org)

**Carter Caves State Resort Park** - Famous and incredible X Cave and Cascade Cave, just north of I-64, are open for guided tours while other caves at the park remain off limits to humans. White Nose Syndrome threatens endangered species that hibernate there. The Kentucky Department of Parks is protecting important bat hibernacula's for the endangered Indiana Bat that is federally protected. 800-325-0059 - <http://www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/cc/>

### North Central

**Boone Tavern in Berea** - Boone Tavern was built in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century to accommodate family and visitors to Berea College, one of the nation's best liberal arts schools. At the foot of the Appalachian Mountains, in the Kentucky Crafts Capital and still the heart of the college community, Boone Tavern has recently been refurbished adding amenities and becoming LEED Certified. Surrounded by a nationally renowned arts community, Boone Tavern has a fabulous restaurant where you can taste melt-in-your-mouth spoon bread and indulge in their signature chicken in a nest entrée. Renovations were completed to coincide with the celebration of its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2009. 859-985-3700 - [www.boonetavernhotel.com](http://www.boonetavernhotel.com)

**Bellevue** - Proving that great things come in small packages, Bellevue is just to the east of big sisters Covington and Newport in Northern Kentucky. Established in 1870, Bellevue is a river town that has experienced a renaissance. Original architecture and a thriving main street contributes to its status as an area best kept secret.. We'd like to change that secret reference by spreading the word that this town of 7,000 is a great spot to explore, especially along Fairfield Avenue (main street). Browse and buy in galleries, antique stores, shops and restaurants in this gem of a town calmly situated in the midst of a metropolitan area. Check out photos at [www.shopbellevueky.com/](http://www.shopbellevueky.com/) or [www.friendsofbellevueky.org](http://www.friendsofbellevueky.org)

**Jim Beam Distillery Visitors Experience in Clermont** - The place where "the world's finest bourbon" is produced, opened a section of a new visitors center at their Clermont distillery, just south of Louisville. This state-of-the-art facility highlights the history and heritage and offers a tasting of their top-selling spirit (tasters must be 21 or older). The multi-million dollar "Visitors Experience" includes new displays of discovered historical documents, photos and a distillery tour. The rest of the center opens in 2011. 502-543-9877 - [www.jimbeam.com](http://www.jimbeam.com)

**Behringer-Crawford Museum in Covington** - The museum has expanded beyond the original, historic 19th century Devou family home, surrounded by the rolling hills of Covington's Devou Park—one of the largest urban parks in the state. The park provides an historical backdrop to the museum collections and a recently opened, state-of-the-art addition that more than doubles the facility. Fine art and transportation-themed galleries show how commercial traffic on water, by rail and air, has for generations had a significant impact on area development as well as the history and culture of the area from pre-historic times to present.  
859-491-4003 - [www.bcmuseum.org](http://www.bcmuseum.org)

**Skylar's Landing in Harrodsburg is home to Eddie Montgomery's Steakhouse** - A log-structured restaurant complete with stone fireplaces, waterfalls and a stage where musicians from throughout the country will perform. Scheduled to open in December 2009, the restaurant, which will specialize in premium steaks among its entrées and sporting a family atmosphere, will be about 20,000 square feet and seat 265 diners.  
[www.eddiemontgomerysteakhouse.com/](http://www.eddiemontgomerysteakhouse.com/)

**Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill (just outside of Harrodsburg)** - Visitors have always been kindly welcomed to enjoy the taste-tempting food at the Trustees Inn at the village. What's new is that now visitors can choose to have a cocktail with their meal. Recent renovations have added modern amenities cloaked in traditional Shaker style, including Tempur-Pedic mattresses and television. Accommodations include 70 guest rooms, suites or private cottages. Private functions held at the village now include weddings.  
[www.shakervillageky.org](http://www.shakervillageky.org) – 859-734-5411

**Commonwealth Double Deckers--On the Move in Lexington** - The famous tour buses of the United Kingdom have taken up residency in the other UK City. These buses may be chartered for a unique sightseeing tour or to create a once-in-a-life time, memorable event for groups and guests.  
859-948-8339 – 859-699-9623 – [www.cddb.com](http://www.cddb.com)

**Sprocket Jockeys in Lexington** - What happens when a rickshaw is crossed with a bicycle? A Pedicab driven by a Sprocket Jockey. This service in Lexington runs from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m., Thursday through Saturday. It's a perfect way to negotiate transit from destination to destination. Hop aboard! Free service, but tips are expected.  
859-913-7331 or [www.sprocketjockeys.com](http://www.sprocketjockeys.com)

**MEGA Cavern in Louisville** - A massive limestone quarry has visitors scratching their heads in wonderment and delight. MEGA is Louisville's newest tourism adventure. It has an enormous 4 million square feet of space to tour and its first holiday light display has already been given an honorable mention as one of the nation's top ten Christmas light shows. Historic tram tours show the sites and history and just like a natural cave, the Cavern has a constant temperature of 60 degrees. Open seven days a week, June through August and other hours for special events. Historic tours depart every 30 minutes and last 60 to 70 minutes.  
877-614-MEGA or 6342, 502-855-6342 or [www.louisvillemegacavern.com](http://www.louisvillemegacavern.com)

**Newport Gangster Tour - 8 Blocks of Villainy** - Newport is no more referred to as Sin City but it was once a notorious destination for gambling, mob connections and famous performers. Time Magazine noted its "gaudy brand of gambling and prostitution"... that made it stand "as one of the nation's most blatant sin centers." A premier gaming destination, area cab drivers were well versed in the signals that meant all clear or law enforcement within prior to delivering famous clientele to play and bet. During his brother's 1961 campaign for President, Bobby Kennedy vowed a win would "clean that place up." The town's traditions go back to the women who camped around the U.S. Army barracks there in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Tours and tales of the crime figures and movie stars make for a very interesting history lesson. Public tours begin in May and run through the summer. Private tours available year round.  
888-269-9439 - [www.newportgangsters.com](http://www.newportgangsters.com)

**Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park in Hodgenville--Name Change** - Federal legislation changed the name of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site. This became official on March 30, 2009 as part of the Omnibus Lands Bill signed by President Obama.

**Cooperage Tours in Lebanon** - "All Fired Up About Bourbon" is the Independent Stave Company's theme for cooperage tours that began in September on East Main in Lebanon. In close proximity to part of the Kentucky Bourbon Trail, the cooperage builds oak barrels used in bourbon and wine making. Free tours, Monday through Friday, are at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. and last for 30 to 45 minutes. Groups of more than 15 call 270-692-4518.

<http://www.independentstavecompany.com/>

### **South Central**

**National Corvette Museum Expansion in Bowling Green** - The expansion opened Labor Day 2009 with 47,000-square feet of additional space for expanded exhibits and a 50's themed dining venue, the Corvette Café. Proud owners of America's sports car can participate in the NCM Experience and have their car displayed on the floor of the Museum delivery area. There is a 3,000 square foot gift shop, too. The museum is across the street from the only plant in the world that builds Corvettes.

800-53-VETTE or 270-781-7973 - <http://www.corvettemuseum.com/>

### **Western**

**Black Oak Vineyard & Winery outside Princeton** - On rolling farm land, the vineyards for this winery were begun in 2001 and now cover six acres. Black Oak offers tastings, sales, tours as well as a gift shop carrying a variety of wine-related products, gourmet Kentucky cheeses and teas and coffees. The tasting room is next to a shaded picnic area. Friday evening get-togethers with local artists and summer concerts add to the experience. 270-365-0220 or [www.BlackOakVineyard.com](http://www.BlackOakVineyard.com)

**MB Roland Distillery in Pembroke** - Fifty miles northwest of downtown Nashville, Kentucky's newest micro distillery opened in November '09. It prides itself as being a true artisan distillery, practicing small batch production from grain to bottle. White Dog and Black Dog are made exclusively from locally grown white corn and their recently released, full-flavored, pot-distilled White Rum is made from authentic Louisiana molasses (made by an authentic Louisianan). "Spiced Rum" is soon to come.

270-640-7744 - <http://mbrdistillery.com/>

**Lower Town Fine Arts District in Paducah** - Home to the nationally recognized Artist Relocation Program, this 26-block area is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Tour studios and meet the resident artists who create a variety of art. Classes are now being offered by some of artists to enable you to create a one-of-a-kind work of art.

800-PADUCAH - [www.paducah.travel](http://www.paducah.travel)

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Updated 4/10